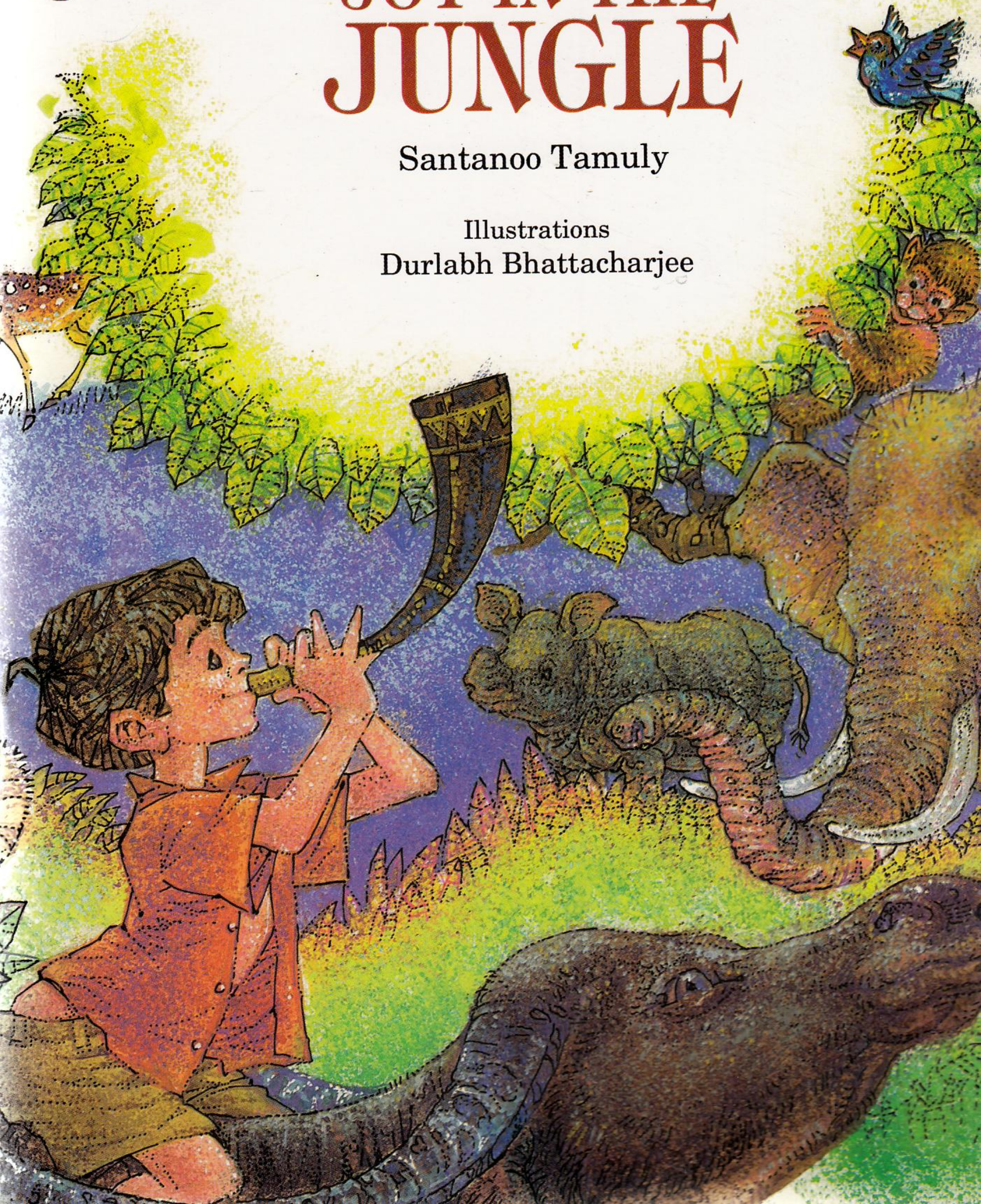




JOY IN THE JUNGLE

Santanoo Tamuly

Illustrations
Durlabh Bhattacharjee



This title was developed in an author-illustrator workshop held at Agartala, Tripura in March 2008.

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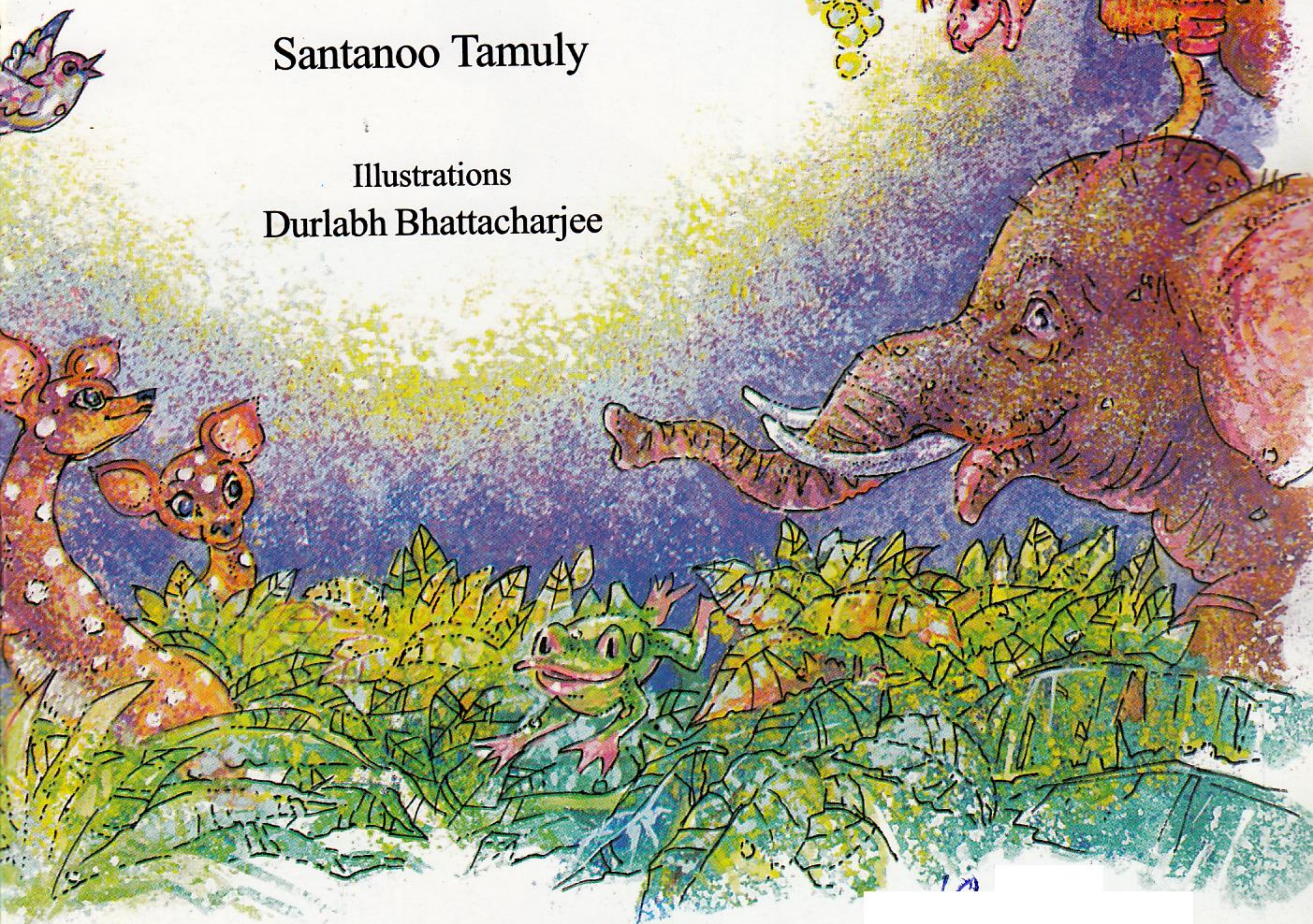


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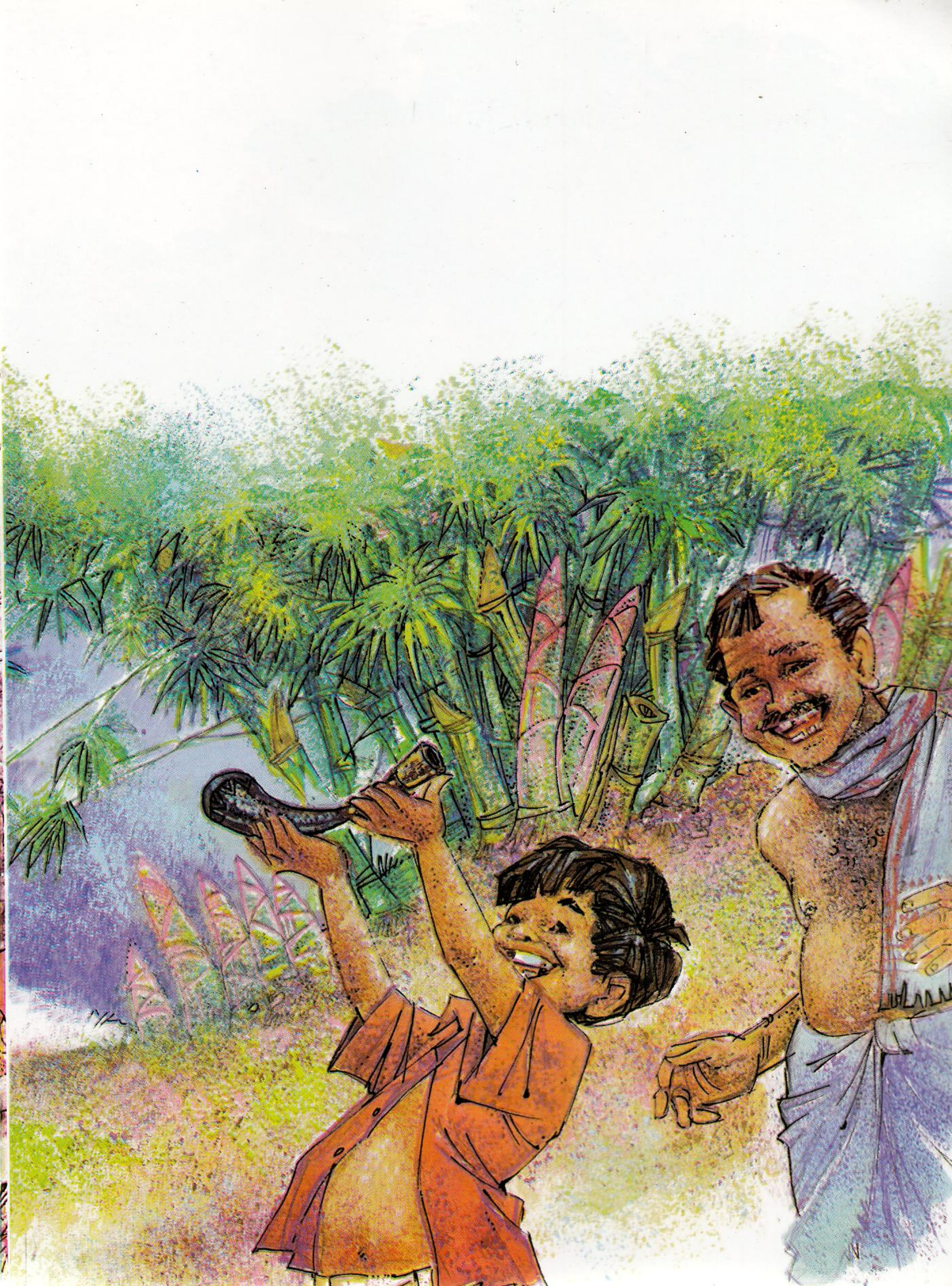




Munu lives in a village near the Kaziranga forest. Very often he roams around the jungle riding on a buffalo.

One day, he finds a buffalo horn. He picks it up.







Munu comes back home. He hands over the horn to his father and says, "Papa, please make a pipe out of it for me."

Father makes a beautiful pipe for him.



Munu learns to play the pipe. One day while playing the pipe, he gets absorbed. Little realising that he has entered inside the jungle! He plays the pipe to the delight of birds and animals inside the jungle.

As Munu plays the pipe, everything in the jungle begins to change. It is filled with beautiful flowers. Munu is very happy.





The birds also begin to sing. A troupe of monkeys starts jumping with joy from one tree to another. Deers start dancing.



Munu sees a herd of elephants. He continues to play the pipe. Looking at him, the elephants raise their trunks and begin to trumpet.

He goes near the lake. As soon as he starts playing the pipe, the fish in the lake begin to swim merrily. The tortoise basking in the sun, jump into the water.





Menu spots two tiger cubs behind a bush. As he plays his pipe, the cubs start rolling over one-another.



He then notices a rhino rolling in the mud. Munu goes on playing his pipe. The rhino stares at him with wet eyes, as if in pain.





Munu comes back home. He asks his father, "Papa, all the birds and animals in the jungle were happy to hear me play the pipe. But why was the rhino so sad?"

Father says, "Son maybe the rhino is sad, because the poachers come and kill them. They take their horns away."

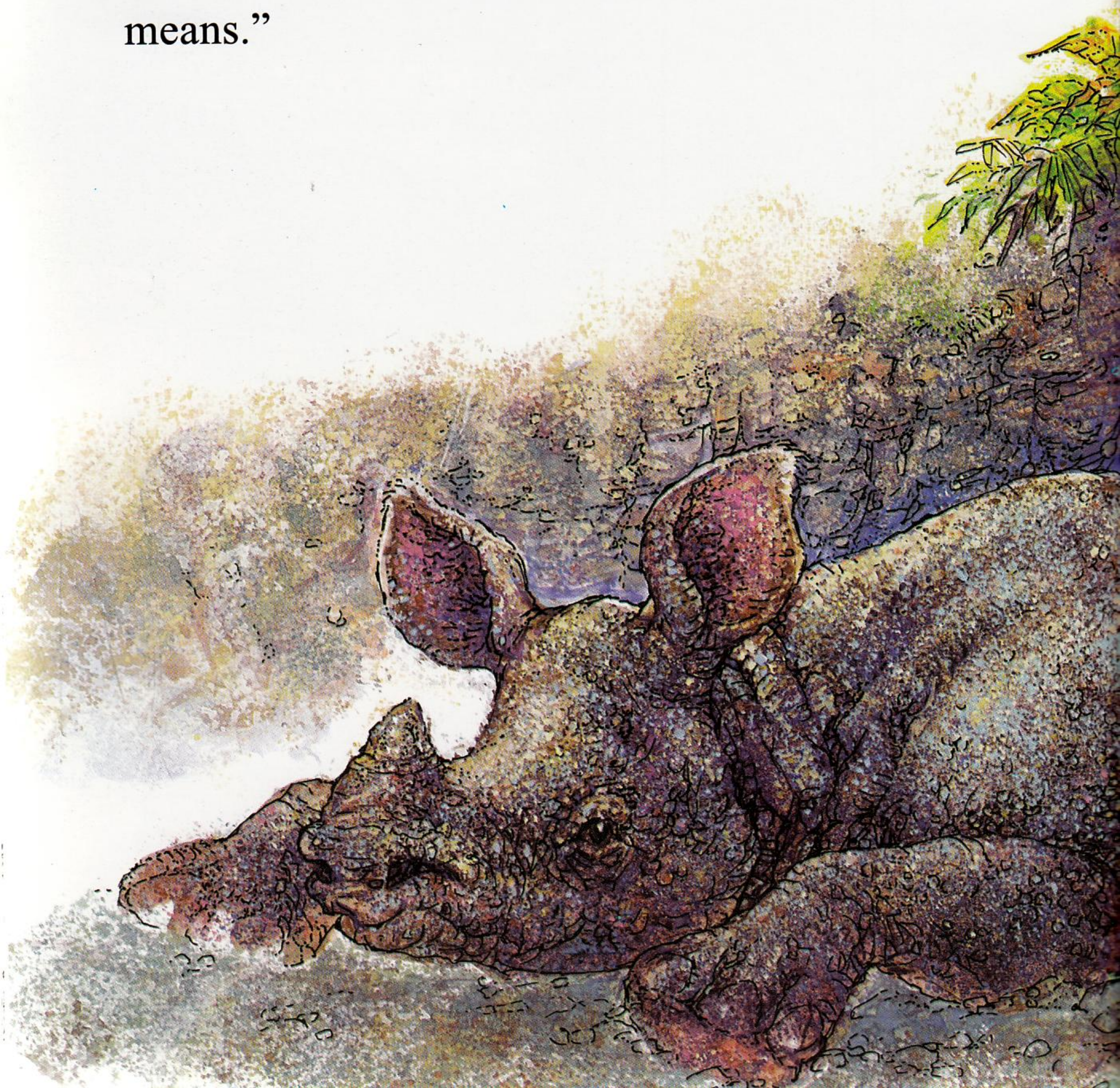
"Can't we save them?"





“Why not, if we desire, we can do so. We must help the animals in their trouble,” father says.

Next day, Munu goes to the jungle riding on the buffalo to see the rhino once again. But she is not there. The rhino is badly trapped in a ditch. Her baby is standing close to her. He rushes back home and tells his father, "Papa, the rhino has fallen into a ditch. Please save her immediately by any means."





Munu's father calls some villagers and goes with them to the spot. The rhino is lying in the ditch in bad condition. Some poachers have trapped her with the motive to kill and take away the horn.





The villagers dig another trench beside the ditch. The trench looks like a passage so that the rhino can come out. The villagers lovingly stroke the baby rhino.



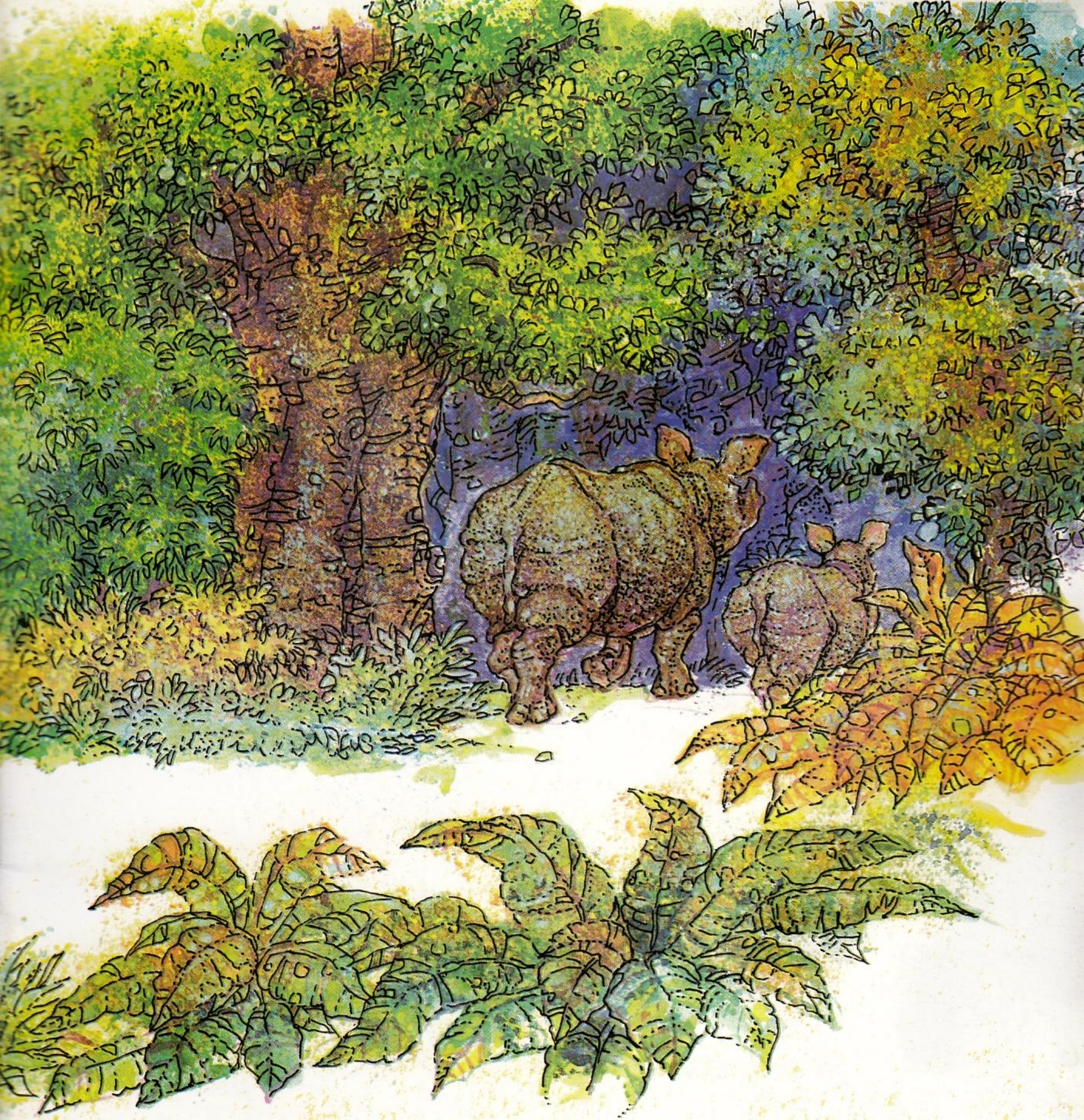
The villagers move aside to allow the rhino to come out. But the rhino doesn't move. Everybody is worried.

Munu starts playing his pipe. Hearing the melody of the pipe, the rhino stands up and slowly comes out of the ditch.



Munu goes on playing the pipe. Slowly, the rhino disappears deep into the jungle along with her baby.





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